Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEOUL 01226 110908Z ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SY-05 H-01 DODE-00 L-03 /053 W

-----110918Z 005365 /22

R 110815Z FEB 77 FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2087 INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO CINCPAC

CONFIDENTIAL SEOUL 1226

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP PFOR KS

SUBJ: OPPOSITION LEADER'S U.S. VISIT

REF: A. SEOUL 664 (DTG 250850Z JAN 77), (B. STATE 18553 (NOTAL)

1. WE HAVE RECEIVED LETTER FROM NDP CHAIRMAN LEE CHUL-SEUNG PROVIDING US WITH HIS ITINERARY TO THE UNITED STATES AND ASKING OUR ASSISTANCE WITH A VARIETY OF APPOINTMENTS. DESPITE FACT WE HAD PREVIOUSLY ADVISED HIM ON BASIS REF B THAT APPOINTMENTS ABOVE UNDERSECRETARY LEVEL WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE, HE HAS ASKED TO SEE THE FOLLOWING: VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE, SPEAKER O/NEIL, SECRETARY VANCE, SENATOR SPARKMAN, SENATOR HUMPHREY, REPRESENTATIVE ZABLOCKI, AND UNDERSECRETARY HABIB. HE ALSO WISHES TO CALL ON OTHER KEY OFFICIALS IN DEPARTMENT AND AT DEFENSE AND ASKS IF WE CAN HELP WITH APPOINTMENT AT BROOKINGS INSTRITUTION. LETTER INDICATES LEE WILL BE IN HONOLULU MARCH 2 THROUGH 4 AND WILL STOP OFF IN LOS ANGELES AND NEW YORK, THEN WILL BE IN WASHINGTON MARCH 10 AND 11 AND MARCH 14 THROUGH 16. LEE'S PARTY WILL INCLUDE THREE NDP ASSEMBLYMEN, NDP FLOOR LEADER YOO CHI-SONG, PLUS OHM YOUNG-DAL, AND SHIN SANG-WOO, TOGETHER WITH THREE OR FOUR REPORTERS.

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2. ASSEMBLYMAN OHM CAME IN TO SEE US SAME DAY TO URGE THAT WE HELP AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE WITH TRIP. POLCOUNS AGAIN MADE CLEAR THAT WE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO ARRANGE APPOINTMENTS ABOVE UNDERSECRETARY LEVEL AND THAT LEE SHOULD USE HIS OWN EMBASSY OR OTHER CHANNELS TO MAKE APPOINTMENTS OUTSIDE THE ADMINISTRATION. OHM ADVISED TO CONTACT EA COUNTRY DIRECTOR HURWITZ FOR HELP WITH ADMINISTRATION APPOINTMENTS. OHM

EXPRESSED APPRECIATION, BUT OBVIOUSLY WAS A BIT CHESTFALLEN AND COMMENTED HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL FOR LEE CHOL-SEUNG TO HAVE OPPORTUNITY AS OPPOSITION LEADER TO EXPRESS HIS VIEWS ABOUT CURRENT SITUATION IN KOREA AND TO TAKE SOUNDINGS AT HIGH LEVELS IN USG. POLCOUNS INDICATED UNDERSTANDING, BUT REPEATED ABOVE GUIDANCE.

3. FOR TOKYO: MR. LEE INDICATES HE WILL BE IN TOKYO FEBRUARY 23 - MARCH 3 WHEN HE WOULD LIKE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH DCM SHOESMITH.

4. CINCPAC: LEE AND PARTY WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE CINCPAC BRIEFING DURING HONOLULU STOPOVER MARCH 2 THROUGH 4. PLEASE ADVISE IF AND WHEN THIS MIGHT BE POSSIBLE AND WHOM LEE PARTY SHOULD CONTACT. SNEIDER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a **Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** Concepts: PARTY LEADERS

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 11-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am

Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009

Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SEOUL01226
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

Expiration: Film Number: D770049-0531 Format: TEL

From: SEOUL Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770249/aaaabrkd.tel

Line Count: 78 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History: Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Message ID: 201b6ec7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION EA

Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 77 SEOUL 664, 77 STATE 18553

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 29-Sep-2004 12:00:00 am Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 3338408 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: OPPOSITION LEADER\'S U.S. VISIT

TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, KS, US, NDP, (LEE CHUL-SEUNG)

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/201b6ec7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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